

(d) the steps Central Government proposed to take to control excessive seepage and water-logging from these canals?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) to (c). Water-logging due to seepage from Ganga, Bhakra and Indira Gandhi Canals has been noticed. Main reasons for such water-logging include problem of drainage due to hydrological and topographical conditions and unscientific water management practices. Water-logging induces salinisation resulting in reduction of agricultural production.

(d) The measures which could reduce the problem of water-logging such as improved water management practices, conjunctive use of surface and ground water, wherever feasible and adequate drainage systems, are being encouraged.

Travel by Foreign Tourists in Inner Line Areas

6236 SHRI AJAY MUKHOPADHYAY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have one unified policy for developing tourism in the country;

(b) if so, whether there is any restriction of foreign tourists to travel within inner line areas; and

(c) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Various factors like proximity to the international border, general law and order situation and sensitivity of the

areas are the reasons for imposing restrictions on the entry and stay of foreigners under Foreigners (Protected Areas) Order, 1958 and Foreigners (Protected Areas) Order 1963. Following areas have been declared as Restricted or Protected areas: Sikkim, Certain Parts along the international border of J&K, U.P., Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan whole of Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Union Territory of Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Foreign nationals cannot enter or stay in these areas without obtaining necessary permits from the competent authorities.

Demand of Pig Iron in West Bengal

6237. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the total estimated demand and production of pig iron in the country;

(b) whether there is any gap between the demand and supply in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether West Bengal's quota of domestic pig iron for the small scale foundry units has been reduced by nearly 50%;

(e) whether there is any proposal to allot more quantum of pig iron to West Bengal; and

(f) if so, the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The estimated annual demand of pig iron in the country in 1991-92 is 19.2 lakh tonnes.

(b) Yes, Sir.